

A new South African terrestrial Isopod (Crustacea: Isopoda)

by

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SYNOPSIS

A description is given of *Armadillo haedillus* n. sp., based on specimens from the Transkei area of the Eastern Cape Province.

ARMADILLIDIIDAE

Armadillo haedillus n. sp.

Surface smooth, but the tops of the excrescences, margins of segments, dorsal surface of head and telson with scale-setae. Head obscurely gibbose on each side above the eye; ocelli 3; epistome not strongly raised, with a median impression above, biconcave below, the junction of the two areas marked by a rather distinct arcuate line (cf. Barnard 1932, fig. 65 k.).

Peraeon segment 1 with 2 small granules on anterior margin, 7 larger conical granules on hind margin, the outermost one of which is apically bifid. Margin reflexed, not grooved, hind corner unequally cleft, internal tooth rounded, projecting beyond hind corner of segment and visible externally in lateral view.

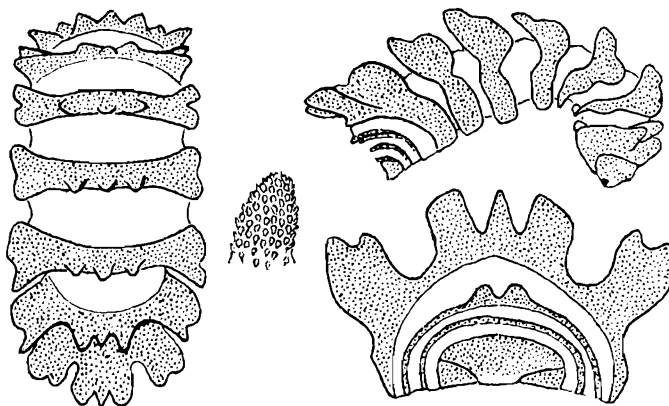


Fig. 1. *Armadillo haedillus* n. sp. Dorsal view of peraeon segments 1-7 (partially unrolled; head and pleo-telson invisible). Lateral view. Posterior view of peraeon segment 7 and pleo-telson. Tubercle with scale-setae. Pigmented (more strongly indurated) areas stippled.

* This description was prepared by the late Dr. Barnard in 1962.

Peraeon segments 2-7 each with a transverse series of 3 tubercles medianly, and a large, apically notched, flange laterally projecting over the epimera; tubercles and flanges increasing in size posteriorly. Epimera of segments 2-4 narrowed to acute points, of segments 5-7 rounded below. Internal tooth on segment 2 well developed, visible externally in lateral view. Pronotum very narrow, 1/12 length of segment. Epimera of segments 5-7 internally thickened at junction with segment.

Pleon segment 3 with a transverse pair of small median tubercles. Telson twice as broad as long, distal portion very short, apical margin straight, about 1/3 width of telson.

Antenna 2, 4th and 5th segments subequal, 2nd slightly shorter, flagellum slightly shorter than 5th peduncular segment, its 2nd segment 3 times length of 1st. Uropod peduncle broader than long, outer ramus obsolete, inner ramus extending nearly to end of peduncle.

Size 6 (unrolled: *ca.* 5) x 1.5 mm. Pale brown or grey, eyes black.

Qolora River mouth, Transkei. Several specimens in humus. R. F. Lawrence, January, 1962. Type material in Natal Museum, no. 6535,

Remarks. Comparison of the respective descriptions shows that this "nice little animal" (*haedillus*) belongs to the *tabularis* group (Barnard, 1932, p. 354). The sculpturing recalls that of *hypselos* (Barnard, 1932, p.357), but is very much stronger, with lateral flanges instead of mammilliform tubercles. The internal teeth on peraeon segments 1 and 2 resemble those of *tabularis*.

For use of the name *Armadillo* see: Barnard, 1958, p.87; and 1960, p.510 footnote.

REFERENCES

- BARNARD, K. H. 1932. Contributions to the Crustacean Fauna of South Africa, No. XI. Terrestrial Isopoda. *Ann. S. Afr. Mus.* 30: 179-388. 80 text figs.
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